



A.D. 1840 . . . . . N° 8405.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

RICHARD EDWARDS.

MATERIALS FOR LIGHTING FIRES.

LONDON:

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EDWARDS' SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, RICHARD EDWARDS, of Fairfield Place, Bow, in the County of Middlesex, Dealer in Emery Cloth, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her present most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her  
5 Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the Twenty-ninth day of February, in the third year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Richard Edwards, Her especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority that I, the said Richard Edwards, my exors, admors, and assigns, or such  
10 others as I, the said Richard Edwards, my exors, admors, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times during the term of years therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, my Invention of "IMPROVEMENTS IN PREPARING AND COMBINING MATERIALS  
15 USED IN LIGHTING OR KINDLING FIRES;" in which said Letters Patent is contained a proviso, that I, the said Richard Edwards, shall cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be inrolled in Her said Majesty's High Court of Chancery within six calender months next and immediately after the date of



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the said in part recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear.

**NOW KNOW YE**, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said Richard Edwards, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, are fully described 5 and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof, reference being had to the Drawing hereunto annexed, and to the figures and letters marked thereon (that is to say):—

My Invention relates to a mode of preparing and combining wood or reeds, or wood and reeds, with other materials into suitable bundles for lighting fires, 10 which I call “ventilated faggots;” and in order to give the best information in my power I will describe the mode pursued by me in carrying out my Invention. In forming bundles of wood usually called fire wood, as at present practised, it is customary to tie up several pieces of wood or sticks, or reeds, which when used are generally cut or untied to separate the pieces, and should such 15 bundles be used without untying the pieces of wood, sticks, or reeds are too closely laid and retained together, side by side, to offer a ready means of combustion to each and every part or piece at the same moment, in addition to which the pieces of wood, sticks, or reeds being of nearly equal size at each end, they do not offer a ready means of taking light. Now, according to 20 my Invention, I so combine the parts or pieces of wood, sticks, or reed that there is a space between each of the neighbouring pieces, and thus allowing spaces which may be called flues, and by this means inducing drafts or currents of air to rush through, and thereby aid combustion; and in order to facilitate the first taking fire of each particular piece of wood, stick, or reed, I point or 25 cut away the surface or surfaces at one end of each piece of which the bundle is to be composed, and in some cases where the “ventilating faggots” are desired to light very quickly, I dip the pointed ends into melted brimstone, resin, or other inflammable matter. In combining the portions of wood, sticks, or reeds together I employ resin, glue, pitch, or other adhesive material 30 preferring a material which is combustibile, and by means whereof I cause the pieces of wood, sticks, or reeds to adhere to a strip of paper, rag, wood shaving, or thin wood, string, tape, or other cheap combustibile material, each piece of wood, stick, or reed being caused to adhere at a distance from the other, thus leaving spaces, which, when the whole is combined into a bundle, will offer 35 what I have called small flues for drafts of air to pass through; and I cause all the pointed or sloped ends of the pieces of wood, sticks, or reeds to be in one direction, and which ends when made into a bundle form the lower part



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or end of the faggot. When I wish to make a cylindrical bundle or faggot, I fold the strip of rag or other material, having wood, sticks, or reeds therein, as above explained, in spiral layers one around the other, as is represented at Figure 1, or the faggot may be oblong or square, as shewn at Figure 2; and I  
5 would here remark that my Invention does not depend on the shape or figure of the bundle or faggot, but in the mode of so combining the parts of which each bundle or faggot is composed that there are spaces between the different parts to produce or permit drafts of air through when lighted, aided by strips of paper, rags, shavings, or other thin combustible matter which, with the inflam-  
10 mable adhesive matters and the pointed ends in addition to keeping the parts separated, and in the general combustion of the faggot. By such means of preparing and combining materials I am enabled to light fires with more certainty and at the same time with a great saving of fire wood, sticks, or reeds, as the whole bundle or faggot when made according to my Invention, becomes  
15 quickly lighted throughout all its many surfaces, and thus produces a strong fire which will quickly light the coal or cinder which is placed about the faggot. In using what I have called "ventilated faggots" in lighting a fire, a faggot is placed in the fire-place, in its combined state, with the pointed ends of the pieces of wood, &c. downwards, then cinders or coals are to be packed around  
20 and above it, and a light is to be applied to the faggot at its lower end, where the whole faggot or each and every part thereof will become almost instantly inflamed. I would state, that in some cases I place several knobs of coal or cinder in the faggot, which being in the direct drafts of the flames in the interior of the faggot, will be quickly in flames or red hot, and thus ensure the  
25 lighting of the fire.

Having thus described the nature of my Invention, I would remark that although I have described the best means I am acquainted with for carrying out my Invention, some variations in the means of bringing the parts together may be resorted to, provided the general mode of combining the parts  
30 be retained.

In witness whereof, I, the said Richard Edwards, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twenty-eighth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty.

RICHARD (L.S.) EDWARDS.

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HORNE.

AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the Twenty-eighth day of August, in the year of our Lord 1840, the aforesaid Richard Edwards came before our said Lady the Queen in Her Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified in form above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to 5 the tenor of the Statue made for that purpose.

Inrolled the Twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty.

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LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1857.



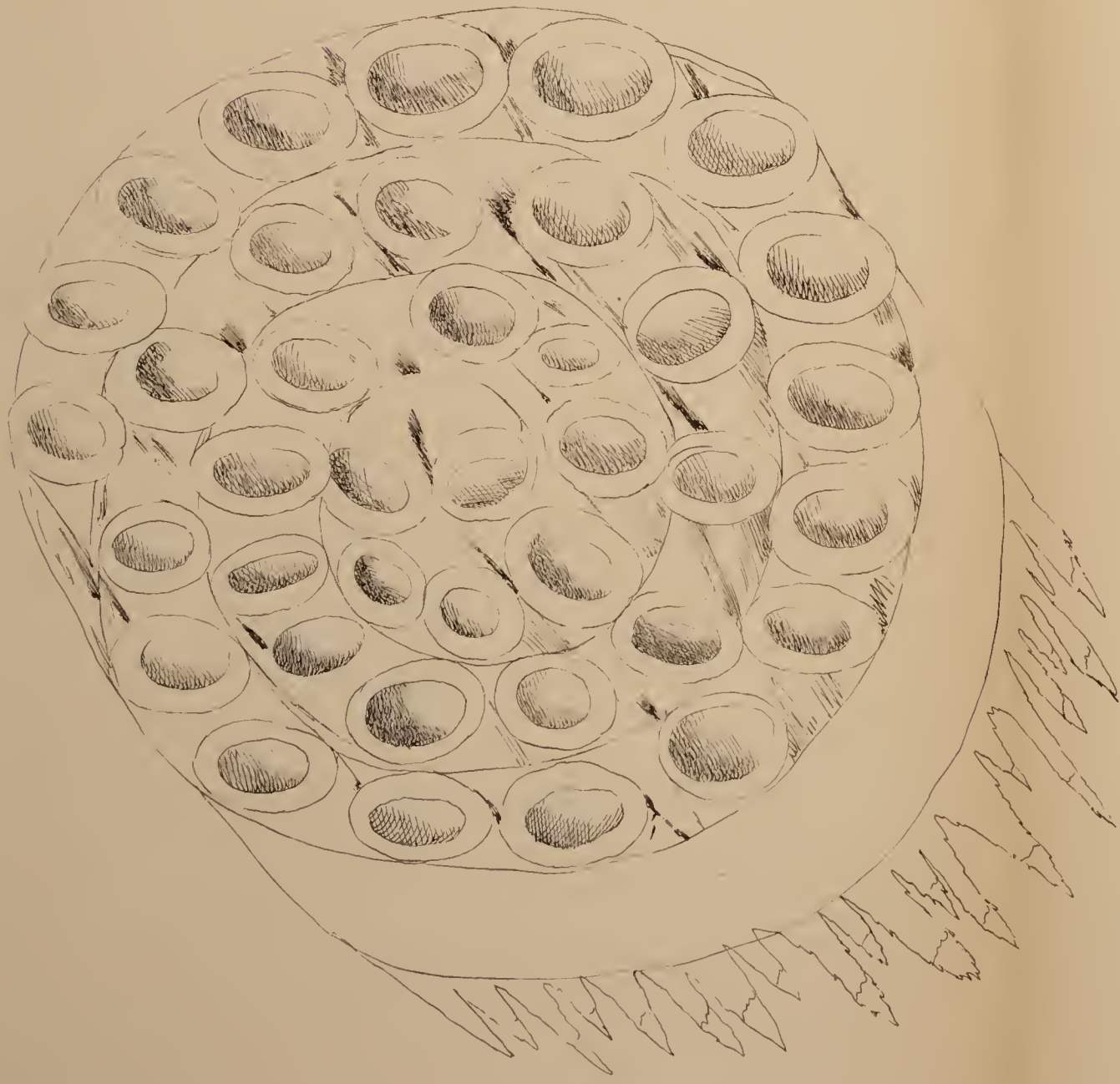


FIG. 1

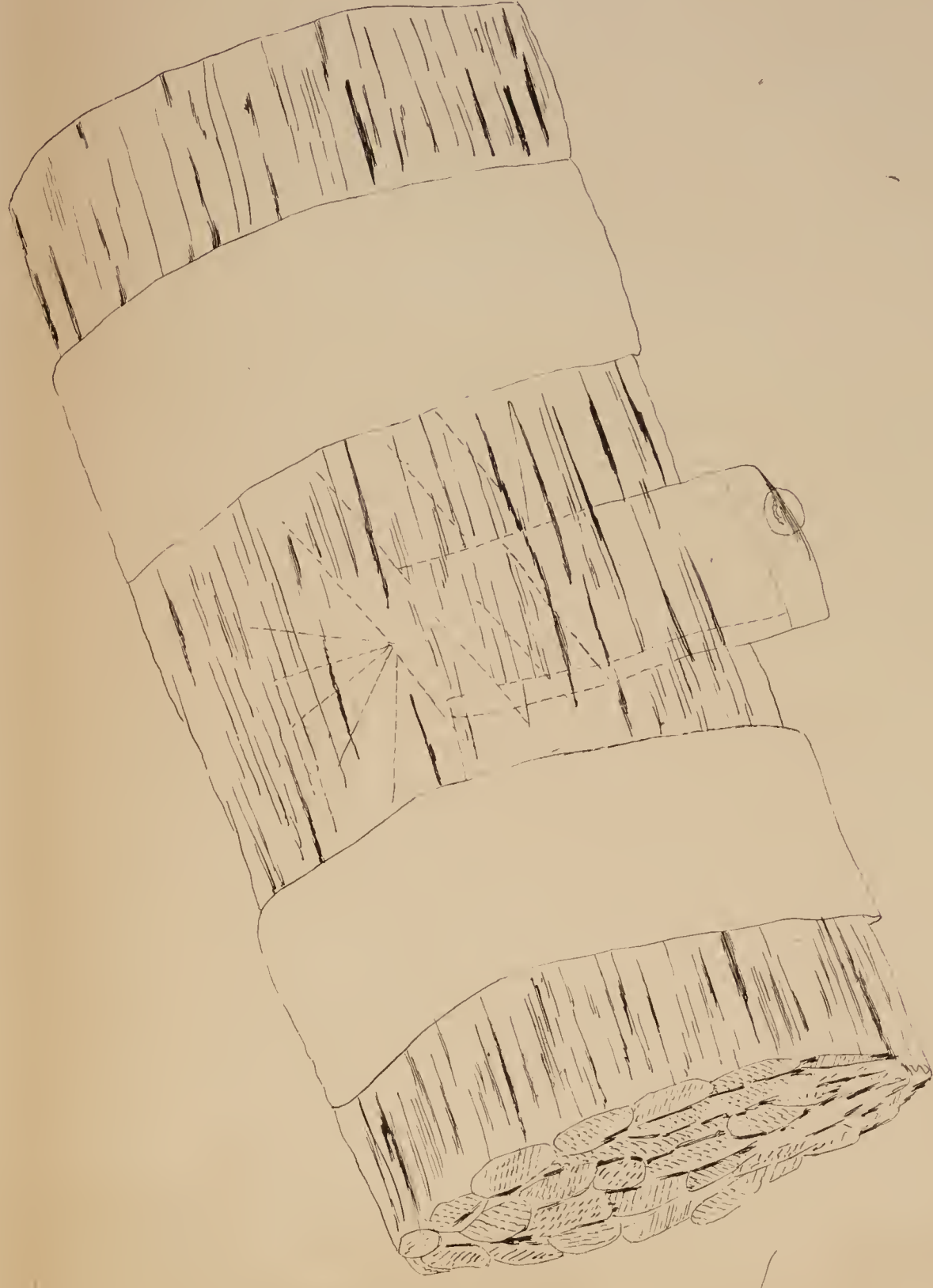
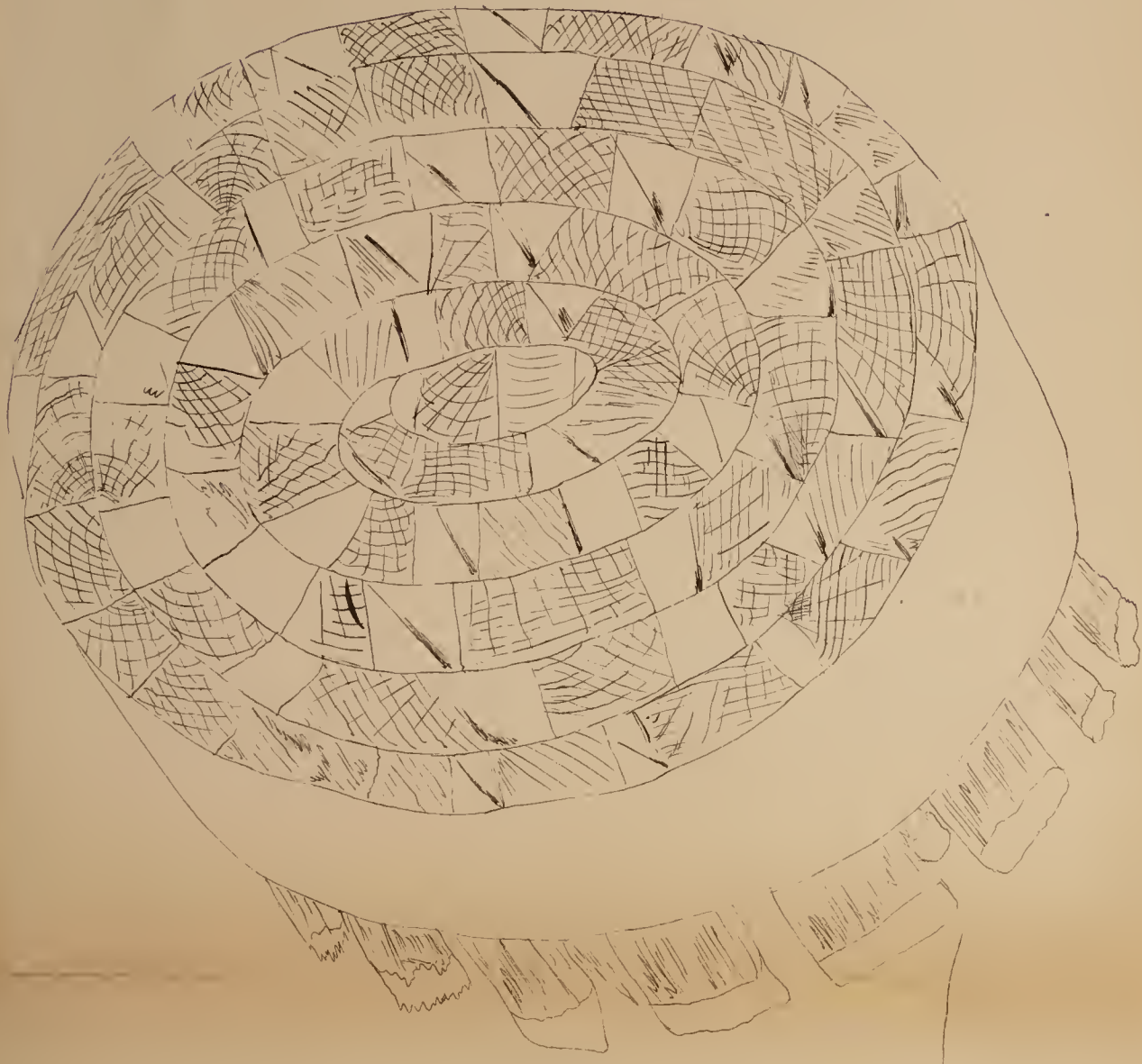
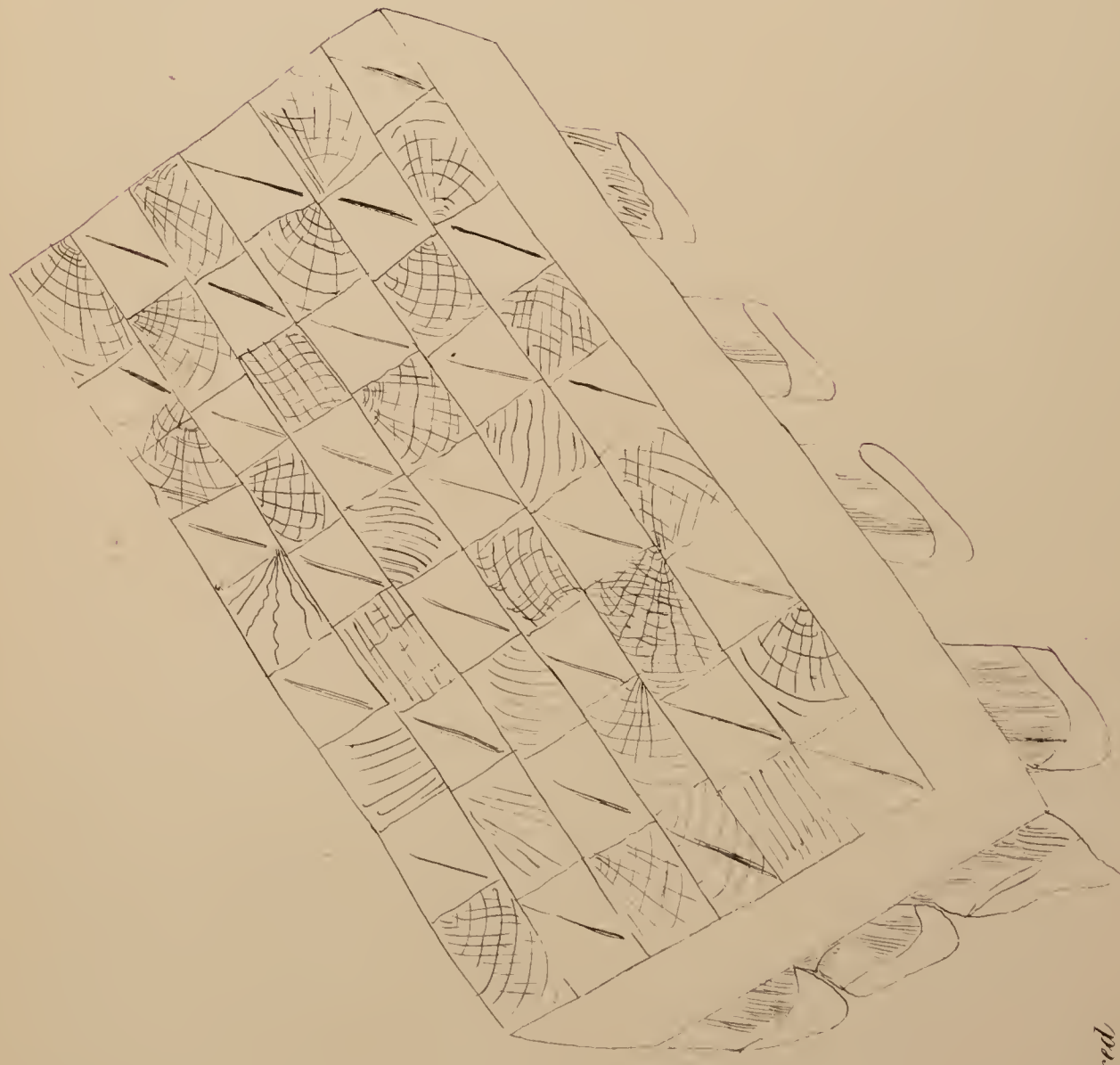


FIG. 2.



*The enrolled drawing is colored*



